

CASH Working Group
 Syrian Refugee Response in Jordan

Meeting Location	UNHCR Khaldia office – Executive Room	Meeting Date	11.08.2014
Chair Person	Emily Sloane- Oxfam	Meeting Time	15:00-16:00
Minutes Prepared by	Ella Gough		
Purpose of Meeting	CWG Meeting		

1.) Summary of action points

Number of action point or discussion	Action point	Focal Point / Organization
1.	Partner organizations to submit feedback on winterization document to Co-Chairs of NFIWG – Viola Caracciolo (caracci@unhcr.org) and Roger Dean (roger.dean@nrc.no), along with notification of confirmed funding for your organization's winterization project.	All organizations planning winterization activities for winter 2014-15.
2.	Partners should talk to their organization's protection officer, or attend the next PWG meeting, to find out more about changes being made regarding refugee registration and bailout as of 14 th July, and the documents required to be eligible for aid.	All organizations.
3.	Request that the Joint Market Survey task force be supported by NFI to be raised at next NFIWG meeting.	Emily Sloane-Oxfam
4.	Those interested in being one of the Gender Focal Points should let Emily Sloane know by the end of the week. (esloane@oxfam.org.uk)	All organizations
5.	Partners who know of donors who might be interested in contributing 50% matched funding to a Medair unconditional cash project , please let Ricardo know. (cash-nfipm-jor@medair.org)	All organizations.

2.) Attachments and References

Documents	Location	Contact Person
Winterization strategy		Viola Caracciolo/ UNHCR Roger Dean/ NRC

3.) Minutes

Item	Discussion
Winterization Document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The document is an outline of interagency winterization efforts. It highlights the need for better adherence to SOPs, offers a simplified contents of winterization kit, accommodates different modalities (cash vs. items), and contains a discussion of priorities. Priorities suggest include an emphasis on Azraq Camp over Zaatari – as most HH in Zaatari have already been winterized. Also suggest prioritize those who did not receive assistance last year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was suggested both in CWG and NFI WG meetings that vulnerability is not linked to length of stay in Jordan/BNFs who have already received winterization assistance, as they might have sold winterization kits. HI pointed out, for example, that around 70% of HI BNFs of cash for winterization used cash to pay for rent and other basic needs instead. Good data which would illustrate whether BNFs sold winterization items or not is currently unavailable.
Dealing with cash BNFs from ITS who are facing eviction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The anticipated plan is that all ITS will be evicted and sent to Azraq camp. UNHCR is currently unable to obtain concrete information about timeline of evictions. UNHCR guidelines from Volker are that cash assistance for anyone moving to camps should be discontinued, because of the comprehensive nature of services provided in camp. Therefore, once ITS residents have been evicted, they will no longer be eligible for cash assistance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNHCR can share registration numbers of beneficiaries and those who have been moved to camps should be removed from lists of beneficiaries for cash assistance. The aim of stopping cash assistance for those who have been evicted is to discourage refugees from bailing out of camp in order to pick up cash assistance. Partners currently involved in cash assistance in ITS: ACTED, Mercy Corps. Issue of increased vulnerability raised. Fear of being reported as undocumented/unregistered will make it less likely for refugees to reach out for services. It was clarified that it is within bounds to offer cash assistance up until refugees in ITS are evicted, after which point it would be inadvisable to continue assistance programs because of potential governmental complications. At PWG meeting the question of when refugees are eligible for assistance or not was raised, particularly in the light of new government regulations which took effect 14th July. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14th July Regulations state that refugees who have left camp without correct bailout papers are not allowed to be registered by UNHCR, and will be returned to camp if caught. The regulation is not retroactive. PWG will suggest targeting according to vulnerability, not according to availability of documents.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As it would be difficult to track BNFs once they have entered camps, should cut cash assistance by area (ITS), not on a case-by-case basis. Organizations should theoretically not provide cash assistance to anybody who was listed as residing in the evicted ITS area. Emily will confirm this with Volker.
Updates from Task Forces	<p>MEB and Sizing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volker has not sent. Nothing to share. <p>GAD (Gender, Age, Disability)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sent around survey to gather information about mainstreaming of GAD in different organizations' cash transfer programs. The survey was completed by 8 organizations. More organizations can provide information if they wish – contact Lisa (lisa.dipangrazio@rescue.org) GAD will have meeting to discuss results directly after CWG Meeting. GAD will hold a workshop on how to mainstream GAD into cash transfer programs, this is tentatively proposed for the end of August, beginning of September. <p>Common Assessment Tool</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waiting to hear back from HI representative who is no longer in country to respond with comments to latest doc. The document with revised changes is complete, but on hold until we hear back from HI representative. More information will hopefully be available at the next meeting. <p>Creative Thinking and Advocacy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning to organise workshop in 2 parts: Day 1 with NGOs, stakeholders, and legal experts; Day 2 with government and donors. This task force came out of a need to move away from cash assistance to something more sustainable – so the title of the workshop will be changed from 'advocacy' to 'resilience and alternative programming option workshop'. The workshop Day 1 will be on September 7th. We will be sharing lessons learnt, taking stock of the situation, and bring in some informed, innovative thinkers to look at what to do about providing longer term solutions. The workshop will be broader than the CWG framework. There is a planning meeting next week for those who want to be involved, and invitations will be sent out soon. The donors and government have not yet been informed about the workshop. <p>Common Evaluation Tool</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At final stages. Plan on sharing by next meeting. <p>Joint Market Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HI has been leading with WVI co-chairing. They have defined the scope of market survey, collected market information including prices. A baseline from secondary data is needed before work can be completed on data analysis and presented. Data collection will be done at a district level. Wanted to bring in WFP as they are also working on market monitoring. Farah at WFP should be contacted to encourage WFP to share the information they have. Tools as yet undefined, but have an HI tool, and will also use information from FAO, MoA, and WFP. Will need to meet as a taskforce to refine tool, and then can proceed from there. The schedule and regularity of the analysis is still unconfirmed. The task force would like some help to carry on its work, though no one at the meeting volunteered to join.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The work done so far with HI has been shared, but the group is awaiting feedback from CWG members. • It was suggested that NFI could join in with survey, as part of potential sector merge. Thus the task force could conduct a price survey for commodities that will be used in conjunction with NFI (and ask NFI for their MEB), and leave food items to WFP who are being unresponsive.
Gender Focal Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each WG should nominate 1 or 2 gender focal points (GFPs), as per a request from IATF's GenCap Adviser. The gender focal point would participate in gender marker training, so that everyone in every WG has an idea of how to address and track gender in programming. The time commitment would be a monthly meeting with GFPs from other sectors, and a 3 day training, scheduled tentatively for August 25th-27th. • Lisa is an obvious choice for GFP. However, Lisa will be deployed to Turkey for 3 weeks, so would miss the training. Lisa supported as being one of GFPs according to a show of hands. Another GFP for the group is needed. NEF might be interested. • Those interested to get back by Emily by the end of the week.
AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medair: one of Medair's donors has offered to fund a large unconditional cash program, but only on condition of 50% co-funding. Partner organisations who might know of donors potentially interested in co-funding please contact Ricardo at Medair (cash-nfipm-jor@medair.org) • PU-AMI will present the results of its PDM on cash assistance next meeting, August 25th.
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting was adjourned at 16.00. The next meeting will be August 25th.